

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for treating a disorder of the central nervous system comprising administering to the respiratory tract of a patient in need of treatment  
5 alprazolam for treating said disorder, wherein the alprazolam is administered in a dose that is at least about two times less than that required by oral administration and wherein delivery is to the pulmonary system.
2. The method of Claim 1 wherein delivery is to the alveoli region of the pulmonary system.
- 10 3. The method of Claim 1 wherein administering is for rescue therapy.
4. The method of Claim 1 wherein the alprazolam is present in dry powder particles.
5. The method of Claim 4 wherein the alprazolam is present in the dry powder particles in an amount of at least 20 weight percent.
- 15 6. The method of Claim 4 wherein the alprazolam is present in the dry powder particles in an amount of at least 40 weight percent.
7. The method of Claim 4 wherein the alprazolam is present in the dry powder particles in an amount of at least 50 weight percent.
8. The method of Claim 4 wherein the particles have a tap density of less than  
20 about 0.4 g/cm<sup>3</sup>.

9. The method of Claim 4 wherein the particles have a mass median aerodynamic diameter of less than about 5 microns.
10. The method of Claim 4 wherein the particles have a mass median geometric diameter greater than about 5 microns.
- 5 11. The method of Claim 4 wherein the particles have a mass median aerodynamic diameter of less than about 3 microns.
12. The method of Claim 4 wherein the particles include a phospholipid.
13. The method of Claim 4 wherein the particles include citrate and a multivalent salt.
- 10 14. The method of Claim 4 wherein the particles include an amino acid.
15. The method of Claim 14 wherein the amino acid is leucine.
16. The method of Claim 4 wherein the particles are administered via a dry powder inhaler.